

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of sterilising one or more radioactive seeds, which method comprises subjecting the radioactive seeds to dry heat at a temperature of at least 140°C for a minimum of 2 hours ~~time-sufficient~~ to effect sterilisation, and subsequently cooling the radioactive seeds.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the temperature is 150 to 200 °C
3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the temperature is at least 160 °C.
4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the radioactive seeds are loose.
5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the radioactive seeds are in a closed container.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the closed container carries, during sterilisation, a label or marker indicating the contents of the closed container.
8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a plurality of containers of radioactive seeds, comprising the same or different numbers of radioactive seeds, are sterilised together.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the radioactive seeds comprise ^{125}I -radioiodine or ^{103}Pd -palladium.
10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the radioactive seeds are free of moisture.
11. (Canceled)
12. (Previously presented) A product comprising one or more sterilized radioactive seeds wherein the seeds are sterilised by the dry heat sterilisation process of claim 1.
13. (Original) The product of claim 12, where the radioactive seeds are in a closed container.
14. (Previously presented) A product comprising a closed container containing one or more sterilized radioactive seeds wherein the radioactive seeds are free of moisture and of chemical residues characteristic of chemical sterilisation, and wherein the product is free of degradation characteristic of sterilisation by gamma irradiation.
15. (Previously presented) The product of claim 12, wherein the closed container carries a marker or label giving details of the contents.
16. (Canceled)
17. (Canceled)
18. (Previously presented) The product of claim 12, wherein the dose distribution of each radioactive seed is substantially isotropic.
19. (Previously presented) The product of claim 12 wherein the radioactive seeds comprise ^{125}I -radioiodine or ^{103}Pd -palladium.
20. (Canceled)